BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of Southern California Edison Company (U 338-E) for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity Concerning the Antelope-Pardee 500 kV (Segment 1) Transmission Project as Required by Decision 04-06-010 and as Modified by Subsequent Assigned Commissioner Ruling.

Application 04-12-007 (Filed December 9, 2004)

ASSIGNED COMMISSIONER'S RULING MODIFYING SCHEDULE

On June 7, 2005, I issued an Assigned Commissioner's Ruling (ACR) identifying the schedule and scope for Southern California Edison's (SCE) application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) to construct the Antelope-Pardee 500 kV Transmission Project. In addition to establishing the schedule for testimony and evidentiary hearings in this proceeding, the ACR also established a schedule designed to fulfill the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and Pub. Util. Code § 1002. As noted in the ACR, since the proposed project would be located, in part, on land subject to the jurisdiction of the United States Forest Service (USFS), Angeles National Forest, the Commission entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with USFS in May 2005, to prepare a joint National Environmental Policy Act/CEQA Environmental Impact
Statement/Environmental Impact Report (EIR/EIS). The schedule as set forth on June 6, 2005, anticipated that a decision on the project would be available by March 2006.

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On September 15, 2005, the Commission's Energy Division received a letter from the Angeles National Forest (Forest Service) requesting additional information regarding the 201 MW wind project referred to by SCE in A.04-12-007, as well as additional time for review of routing alternatives and preparation of a new Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan). At this time, it became clear that without the timely cooperation of the Forest Service, the Commission would be unable to complete a joint EIR/EIS as originally scheduled. In addition, at this time, it also became clear that SCE had not worked sufficiently with the Forest Service in advance of their CPCN filing to ensure that the Forest Service was fully informed of the extent of the project, the effort required to move the project forward and its technical feasibility, and the state policies that were driving this transmission development.

Over the last three months, Commission staff and SCE have worked with the Forest Service and have reached agreement on a schedule that the Forest Service has committed to meeting. I am disappointed that this effort did not occur prior to SCE's filing or immediately thereafter, as this application is the essential first leg of the Tehachapi transmission project. While the Commission can now move forward with its environmental review of this project, I expect that this experience will provide a necessary lesson that will inform the Commission's effort to address the myriad issues surrounding transmission and renewables in the Commission's renewables transmission Order Instituting Investigation (OII), I.05-09-005, to which I am also the assigned commissioner. Neither the Commission nor the public can continue to accept such delays in transmission permitting reviews, particularly for transmission related to renewable projects.

The Commission's Energy Division, working together with the Forest Service, has prepared a revised schedule for the environmental review portion of this proceeding that reflects the additional time required to meet the combined requirements of NEPA, CEQA, the Commission and the Forest Service. I hereby modify the schedule previously set to the one provided below. The revised schedule will be adhered to as closely as possible. I intend to do all I can to ensure the schedule set forth below is met and no further delays occur. In this regard, I direct the Energy Division to file a monthly status report so that I can determine parties are adhering to this schedule and also receive advance warning if there is a possibility of additional delays, while also allowing interested parties to track the advancement of this project. In addition, I have decided to bifurcate the need issue in this proceeding from the environmental review and address the need portion of the CPCN application in a decision scheduled for spring 2006. My goal is to resolve as much of this application as possible while the environmental review is pending.

Revised Schedule

Draft Decision on Need Issue May, 2006

Final Decision on Need Issue June, 2006

Draft EIR released for 45-day public review

period July 14, 2006

Public Participation Hearings August, 2006

Comments Due on DEIR August 28, 2006

Final EIR released October 30, 2006

Proposed Decision on CPCN/

Certifying Final EIR November, 2006

Final Decision on CPCN/ Certifying Final EIR

December, 2006

Details regarding locations for Public Participation Hearings will be verified in subsequent rulings.

Service and Mailing Lists

The official service list for this proceeding is available on the Commission's web site (http://www.cpuc.ca.gov). In addition to the official service list, the Energy Division maintains maintain a separate environmental review mailing list for the application. All persons who filed protests or submitted correspondence to the Commission will be placed on the Energy Division's environmental review mailing list for this proceeding. For additions or changes to the environmental review mailing list, please contact the Energy Division Project Hotline at (650) 240-1720. All persons on the environmental review mailing list will be notified of the public participation hearings. If your interest in this proceeding relates to the preferred route of SCE's proposed project, development of alternatives to the proposed project, or other aspects of the environmental review of this project, you should be on the environmental review service list.

Parties submitting comments in the environmental review process must follow the instructions included with the environmental document that is being commented on in order for their comments to be incorporated into the administrative record. Comments on environmental documents should not be addressed to the ALJ, the assigned Commissioner, or other Commissioners, or filed with the Docket Office. Comments in the environmental review process do not need to be served on other parties in this case.

Therefore, **IT IS RULED** that:

A.04-12-007 DGX/JMH/dhn

- 1. The schedule of this proceeding is revised as set forth above in this ruling.
- 2. The Commission's Energy Division shall file a monthly status report concerning adherence to this schedule. The report should be served on the service list on the first business day of each month, starting in January, 2006.

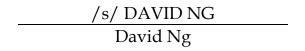
Dated December 12, 2005, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ DIAN M. GRUENEICH
Dian M. Grueneich
Assigned Commissioner

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I have by mail, and by electronic mail to the parties for whom an electronic mail address has been provided, this day served a true copy of the original attached Ruling Modifying Schedule on all parties of record in this proceeding or their attorneys of record.

Dated December 12, 2005, at San Francisco, California.



NOTICE

Parties should notify the Process Office, Public Utilities Commission, 505 Van Ness Avenue, Room 2000, San Francisco, CA 94102, of any change of address to insure that they continue to receive documents. You must indicate the proceeding number on the service list on which your name appears.

The Commission's policy is to schedule hearings (meetings, workshops, etc.) in locations that are accessible to people with disabilities. To verify that a particular location is accessible, call: Calendar Clerk (415) 703-1203.

If specialized accommodations for the disabled are needed, e.g., sign language interpreters, those making the arrangements must call the Public Advisor at (415) 703-2074, TTY 1-866-836-7825 or (415) 703-5282 at least three working days in advance of the event.